

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT DID NOT RESULT IN CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine

- The committee discussed a request “to reaffirm the Right of Decision of the A.A. Grapevine Board to make formatting decisions for the A.A. Grapevine and La Viña magazines.” The committee acknowledged that Grapevine and La Viña are valuable Twelfth-Step tools. The committee recommended that the A.A. Grapevine Board have the ability to exercise their right of decision for all formatting decisions in producing Grapevine and La Viña noting that this recommendation removes all formatting restrictions on Grapevine and La Viña.

Conference Committee on Literature

- The committee recommended removing the following text from page five in the *Living Sober* booklet:

“Many of us have come to believe that our alcoholism is an addiction to the drug alcohol; like addicts of any sort who want to maintain recovery, we have to keep away from the first dose of the drug we have become addicted to.”

NOTE: The committee agreed that the current text added to confusion regarding A.A.’s Singleness of Purpose.

- The committee recommended that “Nonalcoholics are welcome to attend open meetings as observers” be added to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (Blue) Card (F-17) in all three languages when the inventory of the English version is depleted.

The statement will read as follows (addition in bold):

“THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here – especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states that ‘The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking,’ we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems with alcohol. **Nonalcoholics are welcome to attend open meetings as observers.**”

(The 1987 General Service Conference made this statement available as an A.A. service piece for those groups who wish to use it.)

NOTE: The committee agreed that this item is available as a service piece for groups and is not intended to limit attendance at anniversaries or other A.A. events.

(over)

Conference Committee on Public Information

- The committee recommended that the Anonymity Card (F-20) which currently reads:

A.A. ANONYMITY
(ANNOUNCEMENT FOR READING AT MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

There may be some here who are not familiar with our Tradition of personal anonymity at the public level:

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films."

Thus, we respectfully ask that A.A. speakers and A.A. members not be photographed, videotaped, or identified by full name on audiotapes and in published or broadcast reports of our meetings, including those reports on new media technologies such as the Internet.

The assurance of anonymity is essential in our efforts to help other problem drinkers who may wish to share our recovery program with us. And our Tradition of anonymity reminds us that "A.A. principles come before personalities."

Be changed to read:

A.A. ANONYMITY
(ANNOUNCEMENT FOR READING AT A.A. MEETINGS)

There may be some here who are not familiar with our Tradition of personal anonymity at the public level:

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films."
Anonymity breaks on the Internet, social media and all other forms of public communications are contrary to our Tradition of personal anonymity at the public level. When we break our anonymity at the public level, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others, and adversely affect A.A. as a whole.

In keeping with this spiritual principle, A.A. speakers and A.A. members ought not be photographed, video recorded, or identified by full name on audio recordings, and in published or broadcast reports of our meetings, including online resources accessible by the public.

The assurance of anonymity is essential in our efforts to help other problem drinkers who may wish to share our recovery program with us. And our Tradition of anonymity reminds us that "A.A. principles come before personalities."

[new or changed text highlighted in bold]

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